



## Louis H. Sullivan and His Prairie School Legacy: The Midwestern Banks and Other Prairie School Masterpieces

A Two-Part Study Tour to Commemorate the 150th Birthday of Louis H. Sullivan

PART 1: The Architecture of Louis H. Sullivan in Chicago, June 18-19, 2006

PART 2: The Midwestern Banks and Other Prairie School Masterpieces in Iowa, Minnesota, and Wisconsin, June 19-25, 2006

Co-sponsored by the Society of Architectural Historians and the Louis Sullivan Society of the Landmarks Preservation Council of Illinois

To commemorate the 150th birthday of one of America's most important architects at the turn of the 20th century, the Society of Architectural Historians is collaborating with the Louis Sullivan Society of the Landmarks Preservation Council of Illinois to organize a two-part study tour focusing on the work of Louis H. Sullivan (1856-1924). Participants may register for either or both parts of the tour.

**The Architecture of Louis H. Sullivan in Chicago**, Part 1 of the study tour, is a two-day tour that transports participants to Sullivan's most important work in Chicago's downtown and neighborhoods. The tour will include his well-known commercial and residential projects such as the Auditorium Building, the **Gage Group**, the **Jeweler's Building**, the **Schlesinger and Mayer Store**, the **tombs in Graceland Cemetery**, **Krause Music Store**, **Charnley-Persky House** and **Holy Trinity Orthodox Cathedral**.

**The Midwestern Banks and other Prairie School Masterpieces in Iowa, Minnesota and Wisconsin**, Part 2 of the study tour, is a six-day tour that loops from Chicago through Iowa, Minnesota and Wisconsin to look at Sullivan's late work, specifically the "jewel box" banks, commercial buildings, and residences that he designed in **Clinton, Cedar Rapids, Grinnell and Algona, Iowa; Owatonna, Minnesota;** and **Madison and Columbus, Wisconsin**. Additional stops will be made in **Mason City, Iowa** to see Rock Crest/Rock Glen; **Winona, Minnesota** to see banks by other Prairie School architects; **Spring Green** to tour Taliesin; and **Milwaukee, Wisconsin** to see that city's legendary new structure by Santiago Calatrava. Throughout the tour, we will be accompanied by legendary Prairie School historian, **H. Allen Brooks**, among the first authors to write an interpretive history



Auditorium Theater by Adler and Sullivan, Chicago HABS photo.

analyzing the importance of the Prairie School in *The Prairie School: Frank Lloyd Wright and His Midwestern Contemporaries*.

Sometimes called the *Father of American Architecture*, Sullivan struggled in the late 1890s to develop a form of architecture that was unique to America and reflected the democratic ideals of a country that was just over one hundred years old. His theories rejected eclectic and historic styles, particularly Classical architecture, and instead he designed buildings that clearly expressed their function in form and structure. His well-known philosophy of "form follows function" led him to design tall buildings that actually looked tall, and they evolved into a unique form of American architecture: the skyscraper. During his most prolific decade, from about 1885-1895 when he was a business partner with Dankmar Adler, he became a mentor to a group of architects who shared his design philosophy and came to be known as the *Prairie School*. Among his proteges were Frank Lloyd Wright, George Grant Elmslie and numerous others who carried on the design

traditions he established in such architectural highpoints as the Auditorium Building, Charnley-Persky House, and the Schlesinger and Mayer Store (now Carson, Pirie Scott).

Sullivan's late works, consisting primarily of banks and commercial structures for small Midwestern towns, are poetic "jewel boxes" of richly-colored brick, terracotta, stained glass, painted stencils and pastoral murals. In these modest buildings, Sullivan completely revolutionized bank design as we will see in Owatonna, Grinnell and other sites.

Sullivan is equally well-known for his beautiful architectural ornament. The lush, foliate ornament that he designed to be realized in terracotta, wood and plaster, featured sinuous, organic plant forms intertwined with underlying geometric structures. The resulting ornament became a familiar staple in Prairie School buildings by other architects with whom he was associated including Frank Lloyd Wright and George Grant Elmslie. The character of Sullivan's ornament will be fully discussed on our tours of two collections at the Art Institute of Chicago and the home of Seymour H. Persky.



City National Bank and Park Inn by Frank Lloyd Wright in Mason City, Iowa, HABS photo.

## TRIP ITINERARY

### PART I: The Architecture of Louis H. Sullivan in Chicago

June 18-19, 2006

#### June 18 (Sunday) Chicago

In order to familiarize tour participants with the wealth of Adler and Sullivan buildings in Chicago, we will begin with a two-day immersion in the city's buildings by and lore about Adler and Sullivan. This two-day tour will start on Sunday, June 18 at 1:00 pm with a light buffet lunch at **Charnley-Persky House**, the landmark headquarters of the Society of Architectural Historians. The house was designed by Adler and Sullivan in 1891 when Frank Lloyd Wright was a draftsman in their office and was described by Wright as the first modern house in America. Following lunch, we will enjoy a lecture by **Wilbert R. Hasbrouck, FAIA**, who oversaw the restoration of Sullivan's **People's Savings Bank** (1909-1911) in Cedar Rapids. Hasbrouck will provide an overview of the restoration and a short history of Sullivan's bank designs.

Following the lecture, the group will board a deluxe motor coach for a tour of Sullivan's work in several north side Chicago neighborhoods. Our first stop will be to Sullivan's very last work, the **Krause Music Store** (1922), for which Sullivan designed the ornate white terracotta

façade. Next we will travel to **Graceland Cemetery** (designed by O. C. Simonds, 1860) known as the final resting place of many of Chicago's most influential people in architecture, culture, and industry. There architectural historian **Henry Kuehn** will take us on a walking tour to see Sullivan's mausoleum for **Martin A. Ryerson** (1887) and his **Tomb for Carrie Elizabeth Getty** (1890) which prefigures the massing and detailing of his later Midwestern banks. Also, we will visit the grave sites of Sullivan, photographer and preservation advocate Richard Nickel, and many other notable Chicago architects including George Grant Elmslie, Daniel Burnham, John Root, Mies van der Rohe, Bruce Goff, and Marian Mahony Griffin. After paying our respects, the group will then travel to the only building that combines Prairie School and Russian Orthodox design traditions, the **Holy Trinity Orthodox Cathedral** (Sullivan, 1899-1903). A group dinner in downtown Chicago will complete the day.

#### June 19 (Monday) Chicago

The participants on the Chicago tour will assemble at **Charnley-Persky House** at 8:00 am for a continental breakfast before taking an interior tour of the house with **William Tyre**, Manager of Programs for Charnley-Persky House. As a group we will then take public transportation to the south end of the Loop for a two-hour tour of the

**Auditorium Building** (Adler and Sullivan, 1887-1889), the renowned theater, hotel and office complex that launched Adler and Sullivan's successful career in commercial architecture. The tour, which will be led by noted historian of the Auditorium Building, **Bart Swindal**, will feature many interior spaces including the **theater, hotel lobby**, and newly-restored **Ganz Hall**.

The group will then walk toward the north end of the Loop for a picnic lunch and a self-guided tour of newest downtown landmark, **Millennium Park**, (completed in 2004) with gardens by **Katherine Gustufson** and the Jay Pritzker Pavilion by **Frank Gehry**. We will meet back at the south end of Millennium Park (Michigan and Monroe) to head to the **Art Institute of Chicago** for a behind-the-scenes tour by **Mary Woolever**, **Archivist of the Sullivan Collection in the Ryerson and Burnham Libraries**. Following the one-hour tour, we will reconvene on Michigan Avenue to view three examples of Sullivan's commercial architecture including the **Gage Group** (Louis H. Sullivan and Holabird and Roche, 1898-1899), the **Jeweler's Building** (Alder and Sullivan, 1881-1882), and the **Schlesinger and Mayer Store**, now **Carson, Pirie, Scott** (Louis H. Sullivan, 1885 through 1903) which recently had its cornice restored. The group will then take public transportation to the home of **Seymour H. Persky** where we will be joined



Merchant's National Bank by Louis H. Sullivan, Grinnell, Iowa, HABS photo

by the rest of the study tour group for a reception and tour.

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**PART 2: The Midwestern Banks and Other Prairie School Masterpieces in Iowa, Minnesota, and Wisconsin**

June 19-25, 2006

**June 19 (Monday) Late Afternoon**

At approximately 3:30 pm all study tour participants, including those who opted out of the Chicago tour, are invited to gather at the home of **Seymour H. Persky**, 15 W. Grand Avenue for light refreshments and a private tour of the **Seymour H. Persky Collection** of Prairie School fragments, furniture and architectural drawings. The tour will be led by **Timothy Samuelson**, the Cultural Historian for the City of Chicago and expert on the work of Louis Sullivan.

Following the tour, our group will take public transportation to the **Graham Foundation** for an introductory lecture, "Louis H. Sullivan, Father of the Prairie School," by **H. Allen Brooks**, Professor Emeritus, University of Toronto and leader for the remainder of the tour. A buffet supper for all study tour participants at the **Charnley-Persky House** will complete the evening.



Krause Music Store by Louis H. Sullivan, Chicago, photo by Harold Allen for HABS 1965.



Melson House by Walter Burley Griffin, Mason City, Iowa HABS photo.

**June 20 (Tuesday) Clinton, Cedar Rapids and Grinnell, Iowa**

Luggage in hand, the tour group will meet at 8:00 am outside Charnley-Persky House to board a deluxe motor coach for the start of the tour through Iowa, Minnesota and Wisconsin. On the three-hour drive to Clinton, Iowa we will view a new film by Joe Federicci about Sullivan's Midwestern Banks. In Clinton, we will tour the interior and exterior of the **John D. Van Allen & Sons Store** (Louis H. Sullivan, 1913-1915). A box lunch will be served on the bus while we take the two-hour drive to Cedar Rapids to see the interiors tour of the **People's Savings Bank** (Louis H. Sullivan, 1909-1911) and **St. Paul's Methodist Episcopal Church** (Louis H. Sullivan, 1910-1914). Following our respite in Cedar Rapids, we will reboard the bus for the two-hour drive to Grinnell, Iowa, where we will have a group dinner and stay for the night at the Grinnell Comfort Inn and Suites.

**June 21 (Wednesday) Grinnell, Algona and Mason City, Iowa**

At 8:45 am, luggage in hand, we will board the bus for the start of the day in Grinnell. Our first stop will be to see the interior tour of the **Merchant's National Bank** (Louis H. Sullivan, 1913-1914), one of Sullivan's most beautiful bank designs that recently has been restored. Afterwards, we will tour other buildings of significance in Grinnell including the **B. J. Ricker House** (Walter

Burley Griffin, 1911) and the **Campus of Grinnell College** with Gothic, Georgian, and Modern buildings by the Des Moines firm of Proudfoot, Bird and Rawson; Caesar Pelli; Walter Netsch; Weese Langley Weese; and a variety of other nationally-recognized architects.

Before noon, we will select box lunches and depart from Grinnell for the three-and-a-half hour drive to Algona, Iowa. There we will tour **The Adams Building** (Louis H. Sullivan, 1913), one of the smaller buildings that Sullivan designed for financial uses. Although the building has undergone good, recent restorations, most of its dramatic blue stained glass windows are still housed in corporate collection in downtown Chicago.

With the afternoon winding down, we will reboard the bus for the one-hour and fifteen minute drive to Mason City, Iowa where we will be greeted by historian **Dr. Robert McCoy** for a tour of the **City National Bank/Park Inn** (Frank Lloyd Wright, 1909-1910). Although the building has been vacant for nearly forty years, a not-for-profit organization named Wright on the Park has recently purchased the building and is overseeing its restoration back into a small boutique hotel. We will enjoy a group dinner at a restaurant within walking distance of Park Inn and stay overnight at the Mason City Comfort Inn.



National Farmer's Bank by Louis H. Sullivan, Owatonna, Iowa, HABS photo.

### June 22 (Thursday) Mason City, Iowa, and Owatonna and Winona, Minnesota

A trip to Mason City is not complete without a tour of the splendid housing complex, **Rock Crest/Rock Glen**, designed by Walter Burley Griffin in 1912-1914. Luggage in hand at 8:30 am we will board the bus for a driving and walking tour of Rock Crest/Rock Glen where we are arranging interior tours of some of the most notable houses in this beautifully landscaped project including the **Blythe House, Melson House, and others in the complex**. We also will take an interior tour of the nearby **Stockman House** (Frank Lloyd Wright, 1908), which is based on the "Fireproof House for \$5,000" that Wright published in the 1906 *Ladies Home Journal*.

Steeped in Prairie School design, we will board the bus for the one-hour-and-fifteen minute drive to Owatonna, Minnesota. A box lunch will be served en route. The **National Farmer's Bank** (Louis H. Sullivan, 1906-1908) in Owatonna is the first, largest, and most splendid of the jewel box banks that Sullivan designed. It stands on the edge of a downtown park which provides wide open vistas to this powerful edifice. We will allow an hour to tour the beautifully-restored bank, office extension and downtown Owatonna. Upon leaving the city, we will board the bus for the one-hour and forty-five-minute drive to

Winona, Minnesota for an interior tour of the **Merchant's National Bank** (Purcell, Feick and Elmslie, 1911-12). Smaller than the Owatonna bank, but equally beautiful, George Grant Elmslie drew his inspiration for the Winona bank from the Owatonna precedent. We will drive by a similarly powerful Prairie School building, the **J. R. Watkins Medical Products Company** (George Washington Maher, 1911, 1913) on the way to our overnight accommodations, the Holiday Inn in Winona. Dinner will be on one's own.

### June 23 (Friday) Spring Green and Madison, Wisconsin

We will check out of the hotel at 8:00 am, luggage in hand. But before leaving the Mississippi River town of Winona, we will tour the interior of the Egyptian-revival **Winona Savings Bank** (George Washington Maher, 1914). Vastly different from the Prairie School banks of Sullivan and Elmslie, Maher's building is an elegant and unexpected design solution for that building type.

Reboarding the bus, we will take the three-hour drive to Spring Green, Wisconsin. En route we will drive through Richland Center, where Frank Lloyd Wright was born and for an exterior look at his **A. D. German Warehouse** (Frank Lloyd Wright, 1917, 1921) which has design features similar to the Imperial Hotel (Frank Lloyd Wright,

1915) Tokyo. Upon arrival to **Taliesin**, the legendary summer home and school of Frank Lloyd Wright, we will have a group lunch in the **Visitor's Center** (Frank Lloyd Wright, 1955). Later, we will divide into two smaller groups for a three-hour walking tour of the grounds of **Taliesin, Wright's House and Studio** (Frank Lloyd Wright, 1925) and the **Hillside Home School II** (Frank Lloyd Wright, 1902) built for his aunts. Anxious for a rest, upon leaving Taliesin, we will take a driving tour of other sites in Spring Green including **Unity Chapel** (Joseph Lyman Silsbee, 1886) before making the one-hour drive to Madison, Wisconsin. There we will check into Hilton Minona Terrace in downtown Madison. Dinner will be on one's own.

### June 24 (Saturday) Madison and Columbus, Wisconsin

At 8:30 am we will board the bus (WITHOUT luggage) for the 40 minute drive to Columbus, Wisconsin, a beautiful small town whose downtown area is on the National Register of Historic Places. Our first stop will be an interior tour of **Farmers and Merchants Union Bank** (Louis H. Sullivan, 1919-1920), a small but strong Sullivan design. After touring the bank, we will take a self-guided walking tour of downtown Columbus which has a successful Main Street Program to encourage restoration of its historic structures. At approximately 11:15 am we will board the bus for 40 minute drive to Madison for a tour of Sullivan's renowned **Bradley House** (Louis H. Sullivan, 1908-1910). Although badly damaged by a fire in 1972, the house has been completely restored by the Sigma Phi Fraternity which uses it as housing for University of Wisconsin students.

Following a quick lunch in downtown Madison, we will take a guided tour of the **Wisconsin State Capitol** (George B. Post and Sons, 1906-1917), which according to Allen Brooks is one of the most beautiful capitol buildings in the United States. It includes sculpture by Daniel Chester French, murals by Edwin Blashfield, and interiors modeled after the council chambers at the Doges Palace in Venice.

Arrangements will be made to drive by and tour a number of important Prairie School residences that tentatively will include the following: **John Pew House** (Frank Lloyd Wright, 1938), and the **Herbert & Katherine Jacobs House I** (Frank Lloyd Wright, 1936), Wright's first Usonian House. Late in the afternoon we will return to Hilton Minona Terrace in Madison for a group closing night dinner.

### June 25 (Sunday) Milwaukee and Jefferson, Wisconsin and Chicago, Illinois

Luggage in hand, we will board the bus at 8:30 am for the 45 minute bus ride to Jefferson, Wisconsin where we have made tentative plans to tour the **Richard Smith House** (Frank Lloyd Wright, 1950). We will then reboard the bus for the one-hour drive to Milwaukee where we will spend two short hours touring the museum and the **Addition to Milwaukee Art Museum by Santiago Calatrava**. Lunch will be on one's own in the café at the museum. At approximately 1:00 pm we will board the bus for the one-hour and fifteen-minute drive to O'Hare Airport. We anticipate arriving at O'Hare by 2:15 pm to drop tour participants off at various terminals. The bus will then proceed back to Chicago for a final drop offs at Charnley-Persky House at approximately 3:15 pm.

**H. Allen Brooks**, our distinguished lecturer for the entire tour, is Professor Emeritus at the University of Toronto and Past President of the Society of Architectural Historians. Brooks is the author of numerous books on the Prairie School and Le Corbusier. His books on the Prairie School include *The Prairie School: Frank Lloyd Wright and His Midwest Contemporaries* (1972, 1976 and 1996), *Prairie School Architecture: Studies from "The Western Architect"* (1975), and *Frank Lloyd Wright and the Prairie School* (1984).

The Sullivan tour has been organized by **Pauline Saliga**, Executive Director of the Society of Architectural Historians and historian of 19th and 20th century Chicago architecture. Among her publications on

Chicago subjects are *The Sky's the Limit: A Century of Chicago Skyscrapers*, *Fragments of Chicago's Past*, and *Design for the Continuous Present: The Architecture of Bruce Goff*. Saliga organized the Society's successful Summer Seminar on Chicago Architecture in 2005.

### COST

#### PART 1: Two-day tour of The Architecture of Louis H. Sullivan in Chicago, June 18 and 19, 2006

\$195 per person

\$125 deposit per person or full payment by May 1, 2006

Remaining balance due by May 15, 2006

#### Cost of two-day tour includes the following:

Illustrated tour notes

Private motor coach as designated in brochure

All site admissions

Meals including Sunday lunch and dinner; Monday breakfast and lunch

Lectures and commentary

Because individuals most likely can secure less expensive hotel or bed and breakfast accommodations on their own, overnight accommodations in Chicago will not be included in the two-day Chicago tour.

#### PART 2: Six-day tour of The Midwestern Banks and Other Prairie School Masterpieces in Iowa, Minnesota and Wisconsin, June 19-25, 2006

\$1,495 per person, double occupancy

\$1,795 per person, single occupancy

\$250 deposit per person or full payment by May 1, 2006

Remaining balance due May 15, 2006

#### Cost of six-day tour includes the following:

Illustrated tour notes

Reception at Persky House and dinner on Monday night

Hotel accommodations—Tuesday through Saturday inclusive

Private motor coach throughout the tour  
All site admissions as designated in this brochure

Continental breakfast offered by hotel on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday

Group box lunches daily

Group dinner on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday

Closing night dinner on Saturday

Drop off at O'Hare Airport or Charnley-Persky House on Sunday

This tour will include a space for the winner of the Society of Architectural Historians' **Scott Opler Travel Fellowship**. Membership in the Society is required prior to application. For details on how to apply for the fellowship, visit the SAH website at [www.sah.org](http://www.sah.org)

#### Mail or fax registration form and payment to:

Society of Architectural Historians  
1365 N. Astor Street  
Chicago, IL 60610

Fax: 312.573.1141

# SAH Summer Architecture Seminar / Louis H. Sullivan and His Prairie School Legacy: The Midwestern Banks and Other Prairie School Masterpieces

## REGISTRATION FORM

Mail or fax registration form and payment to: Society of Architectural Historians, 1365 N. Astor Street, Chicago, IL 60610

Fax: 312.573.1141

**Individual 1** SAH ID# \_\_\_\_\_ Member LPCI Louis Sullivan Society \_\_\_\_\_

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP/POSTAL CODE \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ ALTERNATIVE PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

DATE OF BIRTH \_\_\_\_\_  Male  Female

**Individual 2**, Fill out only if living at same address and registering SAH ID# \_\_\_\_\_ Member LPCI Louis Sullivan Society \_\_\_\_\_

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ DATE OF BIRTH \_\_\_\_\_  Male  Female

## SELECT TOUR TYPE

### PART 1: Two-day tour: The Architecture of Louis H. Sullivan in Chicago June 18-19, 2006

Number of Registrations \_\_\_\_ X \$195 = \_\_\_\_\_

Deposit of \$125 due by March 30, 2006. Balance due no later than May 12, 2006.

I will make full payment of \$195 by March 30, 2006.

### PART 2: Six-day tour: The Midwestern Banks and Other Prairie School Masterpieces in Iowa, Minnesota, and Wisconsin June 19-25, 2006

Single Occupancy \$ \_\_\_\_\_  Double Occupancy \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Single bed room \_\_\_\_\_ Two bed room \_\_\_\_\_ Requesting a roommate \_\_\_\_\_

Deposit \_\_\_\_\_ x \$250 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_ due by March 30, 2006.

Balance due no later than May 12, 2006.

I will make full payment of \$1795 for single occupancy by March 30, 2006.

I will make full payment of \_\_\_\_\_ x \$1495 for double occupancy by March 30, 2006.



This tour is being co-sponsored by the Society of Architectural Historians and the Louis Sullivan Society of the Landmarks Preservation Council of Illinois. If not a member of either group, \$115 will be deducted from deposit for a one-year membership in SAH.

## METHOD OF PAYMENT

Visa     MasterCard     Check (payable to Society of Architectural Historians)

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CREDIT CARD NUMBER

NAME AS IT APPEARS ON CARD

EXPIRATION DATE

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SIGNATURE

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### Each person registering must sign the following statement.

I/we have read and agree with the terms and conditions and that I/we understand that the participation of the Society of Architectural Historians and cooperating local organizations and individuals in the **Louis H. Sullivan and His Prairie School Legacy** is limited to providing educational background and guidance, that all transportation and other arrangements in connection with this tour are under the exclusive control of others, and that the SAH, cooperating organizations and individuals have no liability or responsibility whatsoever therefore, for any acts of omission of others in connection therewith, and shall in no event be under any liability or responsibility whatever for the death of any person or any loss, expense, delay, or damage to any person or property, however occurring on, during or in relation to this study tour. If my/our SAH membership is not current at the time of registration I/we understand that SAH will deduct the fees from the deposit, add the amount to the credit card charge or require payment by check by the registration deadline.

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SIGNATURE

DATE

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SIGNATURE

DATE

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This tour are limited to 40 people..

The granting or denial of admission to a program is within the sole discretion of SAH. SAH may revoke admission or terminate participation at any time if, in the opinion of SAH, a participant's condition, behavior or actions are problematic, inappropriate or disruptive. SAH reserves the right to cancel programs either prior to departure or while in progress and to take action as needed on an individual or group basis when, in SAH's opinion, the health, safety or well-being of participants requires such action.

Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy and completeness of the information featured in this brochure. Prices and itineraries are based on our best information at the time of publishing. Circumstances beyond our control may require us to adjust prices, itineraries, or other details. We regret any inconvenience and appreciate your understanding



AIA/CES credit hours:

Part 1: 8 AIA/CES credit hours (includes 2 HSW credits)

Part 2: 28 AIA/CES credit hours (includes 5 HSW credits)



Founded in 1940, the Society of Architectural Historians (SAH) is an international not-for-profit organization that promotes the study and preservation of the built environment world wide. Founded in 1971, the Landmarks Preservation Council of Illinois (LPCI) is the state's leading voice for historic preservation. The Louis Sullivan Society was formed in 1999 as the Annual Giving Group to help LPCI achieve its mission

